GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:848
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2006
THE STANDARDS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES PACKAGED COMMODITIES RULES
Dhanaraju Dr. K.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 the manufactures/packagers are required to indicate the weight, contents and price of the packed goods on the label of the packs;

(b) if so, whether any complaints of the violation of the said rules have been received during last three years;

(c) if so, the number of such cases reported during the said period alongwith the number of firms against whom cases have been registered;

(d) whether the Government has issued any guidelines for strict compliance of the Rules;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any amendments are proposed to be effected in the said Rules; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR.AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) : The provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 provide that no person shall prepack any commodity for sale, delivery or distribution unless the package bears thereon or on a label securely affixed thereto , inter alia , the declaration in respect of the common or generic name of the commodity , net quantity by weight, measure or number and the retail sale price in the form `Maximum Retail sale priceâ€¦.. inclusive of all taxes.`

(b) : Yes.

(c) : The number of cases reported and number of firms against whom cases have been registered for the last 3 years is as follows;

	No of cases Reported been registered	No of firms against whom cases have
2003-04	55959	3696
2004-05	53369	2851
2005-06	51375	2496

(d) & (e): Secretaries in charge of Legal Metrology of all States/UTs were advised in July 2005 to strictly enforce the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures

(Packaged Commodities) Rules,1977 with regard to declaration of information on packages and to prevent overcharging by retailers . Further the enforcement authorities were advised to follow proper procedure at the time of surprise checks /raids so that defaulters are not acquitted subsequently on technical grounds.

(f) & (g): The Government has recently amended the said Rules vide GSR 425 (E) dated 17.7.2006.